

PASSHE students — 120,000 strong — are Pennsylvania's future

Most live here, stay here

PASSHE students are your children and your neighbors' children

- ◆ **90% are Pennsylvania residents**
- ◆ **83% will remain in Pennsylvania after graduation**
- ◆ 10% are "non-traditional" (about 11,000 are over 25 years of age)
- ◆ 13% are non-majority
- ◆ One in four new students enrolled in a PASSHE university is a transfer student from another institution.
- ◆ In fall 2010, a record 3,340 students transferred from a community college in Pennsylvania to a PASSHE university
- ◆ 35 percent receive Pell grants; 38 percent receive PHEAA grants
- ◆ Average family income is \$66,000

Graduation vs. completion rates

There are several national measurements of graduation rates. The most commonly cited, from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), tracks only first-time freshmen who enroll in a university in a fall semester and finish at that same university.

Excluded from the calculation are:

- ◆ Part-time students
- ◆ Transfer students
- ◆ Students who start in the spring semester

These three groups comprise about 40 percent of PASSHE students.

Additional student groups that lower the cited "graduation rates"

- ◆ Students who are called to active duty in the military, even if they return and earn their degree in the equivalent of four years of attending classes.
- ◆ Students who transfer to and graduate from another PASSHE institution (even if they still graduate in four years – or less)
- ◆ Students who transfer to and graduate from any other college or university (even if they still graduate in four years – or less)

A truer gauge of success is degree completion.

Of every 100 students enrolled at a PASSHE university each year, 26 are awarded a degree.